

VARIOUS MATTERS.

TREASURY NOTES.

The Globe, in referring to the emission of Treasury Notes, authorised by a law of the late session of congress, says: "We understand that the present emission bears an interest of two per cent., and is chiefly in notes of fifty and one hundred dollars each. It will probably be most convenient to the public to issue them at first in these denominations, and at a low rate of interest, as by this means they may be used as a medium for distant remittances, instead of being laid aside for investments, as would undoubtedly be the case, if the rate of interest upon them was fixed at near the maximum allowed by law. We have seen a specimen of them. The devices are appropriate, and we consider them finely engraved, and particularly well guarded against counterfeiting."—*Penn. Reporter.*

BRIDGE MODEL.

CHARLES MOWRY, Esq. delivered a lecture in the Capitol, on Tuesday morning last, explanatory of the peculiar properties, and the relative powers and proportions of his Bridge Model. We were prevented by our engagements from attending this interesting lecture. A friend has however furnished us with the following abstract of its leading features:

"The Model is constructed upon a scale of 1 of an inch to a foot. It represents 148 feet in length. It had placed on it thirty 56-pound weights, which it sustained, without apparent effect.

The proportion of the model to a real structure, such as it represents, is as a 1/2 inch cube is to a cubic foot—which, by calculation, is shown to be as 1 to 4095. Hence, the 1/2 of a ton, which the Model sustained, was equal to 3072 tons on a real Bridge.

By a small piece of machinery, which Mr. Mowry exhibited, during his lecture, he demonstrated, to the satisfaction of his audience, that if you double the length of a span you diminish its strength one half—and so in proportion to any increase of length. Taking his Model, of 148 feet in length, and 3072 tons for strength, he deduces the result, that upon his plan, a bridge may be built, 500 feet long in the span—and that it will sustain 22 sixhorse teams, (as many as can be placed on both tracks) weighing by his calculation, 176 tons—and then he shows an untrammelled power, in the 500 feet span, to sustain 150 tons more. He contends too, upon data which he adduces that the whole expenses of a bridge upon his plan, including stone, wood and iron works, will fall far short of that of an arch Bridge, per lineal foot.

He shews, also, connected with his Bridge Model, (but not necessarily belonging to it) an aqueduct, of peculiar structure, exhibiting great strength. The aqueduct is suspended from the Bridge, and is entirely sustained by it. Being at least 12 feet below the bridge, the sustaining structure can never be affected by the water—and when the aqueduct shall decay, by the effects of water on it, it can easily be replaced by a new one, without disturbing the bridge structure."—*Id.*

CONVENTION OF BANKS.

The Albany Argus states that the proposition to hold a Convention for the purpose of fixing upon a day for the resumption of specie payments, has been acceded to by a large proportion of the banking institutions of the principal commercial cities and that the convention will be held in the city of New York on the 17th of November.—*Id.*

STATE LOAN.—From an article in the Albany Argus, it appears that the balance of the five per cent. State stock, not disposed of in another way, [2,600,000 dollars] has been issued by the commissioners of the canal fund to the banks of this city at specie par, equal to 100. The loan was made on the following conditions:

"1st. Each bank is to apply the stock solely for the purpose of circulating specie.
"2. To pay the amount in specie or specie funds as it shall be required for the construction of the Genesee valley and Black river canals.

"3. To pay to the commissioners \$240,000 in specie, to enable them to pay the interest accruing on the State debt, for the 1st Oct. 1837, and the 1st January, and 1st April, 1838.

"4. To pay in specie the interest quarterly on the stock issued and loaned to the banks."

The Argus expects a beneficial influence on the money market to flow from this transaction, and observes—

"Although party efforts may retard these favorable results for a few days, the monetary improvement will be steadily onward, and we do not doubt will be accompanied, at comparatively an early day, by a return to specie payments on the part of a great portion of the banks throughout the Union."

[N. Y. Evening Post.

The Great Tunnel on the Rail Road at Harlem Heights, has been completed, and on Thursday last, the Mayor and Corporation of New York, with a large body of citizens, passed through it in cars, accompanied by a band of music. They afterwards celebrated the event by a dinner.

Thanksgiving has been proclaimed in New Hampshire, to take place on the 7th day of December.

HORRIBLE AFFAIR.

The Columbia (Lancaster county) Spy, of the 28th ultimo, says: "Our town has been thrown into a state of great excitement in consequence of an outrageous act committed on Monday night last, by another of the gang of desperadoes who infest that quarter of the town called 'Tow Hill.' It appears that about 11 o'clock on the night in question, Mr. Benjamin Peart, a very respectable farmer, residing immediately outside of the precincts of the borough, close by the turnpike road leading to Lancaster, heard a noise in his pigsty, and on going to it, in order to ascertain the meaning of it, perceived a negro helping himself to a couple of shoats, whose throats he had cut, and was in the act of depositing them in a bag. Mr. Peart at once went forward to save his property and secure the thief. Mr. P. caught the villain, but in the struggle received a thrust from a knife in the stomach and a continued cut quite across it, before the instrument was withdrawn, and several other stabs in different parts of his person. Still he held on until exhausted from loss of blood, when he was forced to cry murder and for help. He was heard by a man of the name of Cruzer, who keeps a tavern on the opposite side of the road to Mr. Peart's, who, on coming to his assistance, the negro fled. Cruzer pursued and overtook him, but when in the act of taking hold of him, was felled by a back-handed stroke of the knife by the negro, driven up to the hilt in the stomach. The supposed assassin was arrested the next morning and committed. He is a stout rough fellow, and named Hen Smith. The knife used, is a shoemaker's knife ground down thin and sharp, and is well suited for the hand of the assassin. Both of the individuals stabbed, are in a very low and precarious situation, and their recovery is considered extremely doubtful.

After about one half of our edition had gone through the press, we received information that Mr. Peart expired this morning about 4 o'clock."

Our neighbors of Brandywine Hundred were considerably alarmed on Tuesday morning by the appearance among them of a huge and to some of them an unknown animal, which seemed to have dropped from the skies, or to have been thrown up from the deep; so utterly foreign was it in aspect and magnitude from any thing which had been seen in these parts before. After much speculation, it was ascertained that it was an elephant—a real elephant—but where it came from, or how it got in the woods of Brandywine Hundred, was the question. It was first discovered by a black boy, who was looking for his cows at early dawn.—Standing on a bank and gazing over the meadows, his eye was suddenly struck by the appearance of the monster within a few feet of him, slowly turning round a thick hedge. Blackey's fright may readily be imagined. He gave one look at the terrible animal, turned, and ran over the fields yelling as if a legion was behind him. The Irishmen working on the rail road, being attracted by the cry, came to the spot, and after giving vent to sundry exclamations at the wonderful beast, undertook to capture him by laying hold of his snout, and landing him to a stable or shanty. But that was easier tried than done:—his majesty resisted every attempt to clutch his proboscis, lifting it in a very ominous way, and it is said, occasionally lending his assailants a rap which reminded them sweetly of the stilletos of Donnelly-brooke fair. Finding that the animal would neither be led nor driven; it was determined to secure him where he was—and they went to work and impounded the stray by building a fence round him.

The elephant belonged to the menagerie which was exhibited here last week. On Wednesday night, the whole collection of animals was transported across the river in the Huckleberry steam boat, to be exhibited at Salem on Thursday. The smaller elephant had been taken across and was fastened to a tree on the Jersey shore, while the steam boat came back for another load. On their return, they found the animal had escaped from his fastening and was missing. It swam the Delaware river in the night, where it is about a mile and a half across, and the next morning found itself in Brandywine Hundred.—*Delaware Journal.*

Drunkards in the United States.—There are in the United States 300,000 drunkards. Suppose they were all to die to-day, and to be buried side by side, in one continued line, allowing three feet for the width of each grave and three feet between them; the line of graves would extend 3,409 miles. Were they to be buried in one grave they would cover an area of 680 acres, and a fence to enclose it would be more than four miles in circuit. War has its horrors, famine has its horrors, pestilence has its horrors, but the horrors of intemperance concentrate and exceed them all. In ten years time the whole procession will have passed away, and the grave yard will be filled. How long shall it be so? Will an end never come?

The Emperor of Russia has been making large purchases of blood horses in England. Doubtless the autocrat has an eye to the improvement of his cavalry.

William S. Pennington, Esq. of Newark, has been elected Governor of New Jersey for the ensuing year.

THE COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT.



BLOOMSBURG:

SATURDAY, NOV. 11, 1837.

POTTSVILLE—PORT CARBON.

A few days relaxation from business were spent in the Coal region of our neighbour Schuylkill last week; and having enjoyed much pleasure ourselves, we feel inclined to gratify our readers with some sketches of what we saw and heard in the places which head this article. Living, as we do, in the Ore Region, where good eating and good neighbours are abundant, and where business seems to move with every appearance of growing wealth and increasing population; we thought our home superior to most of others; but after a mere ocular acquaintance with the men, habits, and business of Pottsville and Port Carbon, we confess ourselves mere tyros in the neoteric schemes of speculation and enterprise.

POTTSVILLE, (which but a few years since was a mud hole,) possesses every appearance of an inland city. Its population now exceeds 5000, made up of all nations—Welsh, Scotch, Irish, English, Italian, German and French; and all these dialects may sometimes be heard while you are enjoying the privileges of a guest at Weaver's "National Hotel," or partaking of delicacies in a refectory. All, too, seem busily engaged in some sphere; and all seem in energetic agitation, except the miner—bargaining, buying, selling, or plotting new schemes for future operations.—To describe the place would be folly in the extreme—it is neither handsome, regular, nor picturesque, unless you include the vast hills and dales which surround it; and to give a description of its business would be impossible. The only source of wealth—the foundation of all business—lies in the Coal Mines. And what are they? Why, gentle reader, it would terrify a tolerably resolute heart to look upon the intrepidity and resignation which attend the gloomy labours of those who excavate the hidden treasures of the earth, and who are continually exposed to sudden injury or death. When mines are excavated to water-level it is only the beginning of successful and profitable operations. Then a steam engine is employed to facilitate the work; and from a depth of 200 feet below the surface, a loaded car is brought up almost perpendicularly, and an empty car let down to receive its burthen of coal. While these are going and coming, a puff of immense power is also propelled by steam, and thus are the miners freed from the danger of drowning, as would inevitably be the case did they rely on ordinary power to force up the water. Then trains of cars leave the depot—they glide smoothly over the rail-road to the canal—and in proportion to their number, the well-bred horses and mules follow after, to tug them back again to the starting-place. In the mines every thing partakes of blackness and horror—in the town every thing looks brisk and inviting. The miner receives his one or two dollars per diem—he is released from business on Saturday evening—his Sabbath morning is spent at mass or other religious exercises, and his wife and family partake with him at the table of some restaurant during the afternoon, and after enjoying the sun-shine of the blessed day of rest, he again willingly subjects himself to the fatigues and privations of the coal hole. The owner receives from 50 to 65 cents for each ton excavated; and when we state the fact, that from 150 to 300 tons constitute a day's work, we can readily infer the precisely situation of him who has invested some ten or twenty thousand dollars in mining operations, and who receives his pay without even looking after those who are concerned.

The steam engine manufactory of Messrs. Haywood and Snyder is a very extensive concern—giving employment to a great number of hands, and proving a profitable establishment to its enterprising proprietors. A few years ago, and the projector of this factory was a young journeyman blacksmith—his fortune is now considerable—and his deportment in every respect

would be a good lesson to others, of the benefits of judicious perseverance and enterprise. Another factory for similar purposes is now being constructed by Mr. B. F. Pomroy, and from the great demand for engines it is presumed that both will be amply patronized.

PORT CARBON, which is only two miles distant from Pottsville, promises to be the great coal emporium, and already its business is very extensive. A number of capitalists have this season given an impetus to the operations of the Mill Creek region, and new investments are daily making to improve the town, and supply the desires and wants of the neighbourhood. Col. C. M. Straub, of Union county, is about erecting a steam grist mill; and from its eligible location, and the favorable disposition of those who delight in the growing greatness of the place, we think his undertaking must prove both useful and advantageous. From a knowledge of his enterprising spirit, and indefatigable attention to business, we could more than predict the success of his present enterprise, which must open a new and regular market at Port Carbon, to supply the surrounding country with the necessities of life.

But enough of our visit. Those who have never been to those places, could not in our opinion, spend leisure time more agreeably or more advantageously than by a trip to the coal regions of Schuylkill county—let them either go for business, for speculation, for curiosity, or for amusement.

THE REFORM CONVENTION.

It is with pleasure we give place to the letters of our correspondent, whose neglect heretofore is excusable for the reason assigned. It will be observed that the Convention adjourns on the 23d inst. to meet again in Philadelphia on the 28th. We think this movement very ominous of the truth of our prediction a fortnight since; & if not correct we will be the more thankful for our erroneous conjectures respecting the result of this body's operations.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.

HARRISBURG, November 6, 1837.

The Convention have been engaged for several days past in discussing the report of the committee on the 5th Article of the Constitution, which relates to the Judiciary. The debate has been chiefly confined to the tenure of Judges. The Committee reported no amendment in this article, except so far as respects Justices of the Peace. The minority of the same committee reported an amendment providing for the appointment of Judges by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate: the Judges of the Supreme court for 10 years, the Presidents of the Common Pleas for 7 years, and the associates for 5 years; with a provision for the rotation of the Supreme Judges. When the article came up for consideration, Mr. Woodward moved to strike out the majority report and insert the minority report. After a long debate in which Messrs. HOPKINSON, MERRILL, CHAMBERS, and others, opposed the motion, and Messrs. WOODWARD, INGERSOLL, BROWN, and others, supported it, a motion was made by Mr. DICKEY to amend the amendment by striking it out and inserting the following in lieu thereof, viz: "The Judges of the Supreme court, of the several courts of Common Pleas, and of such other courts of record as are or shall be established by law, shall be nominated by the Governor, and by and with the consent of the Senate appointed and commissioned by him. The Judges of the Supreme court shall hold their offices for the term of 15 years, if they shall so long behave themselves well: The President judges of the several courts of Common Pleas, and of such other courts of record as are or shall be established by law, and all other judges required to be learned in the law, shall hold their offices for the term of ten years, if they shall so long behave themselves well: The associate Judges of the court of Common Pleas shall hold their offices for the term of five years if they shall so long behave themselves well. But for any reasonable cause, which shall not be sufficient ground of impeachment, the Governor may remove any of them on the address of two thirds of each branch of the legislature: The Judges of the Supreme court and the Presidents of the several courts of Common Pleas shall at stated times receive for their services an adequate compensation to be fixed by Law, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office, but they shall receive no

fees or perquisites of office, nor hold any other office of profit under this commonwealth.

After very little debate as to this proposition, it was adopted. The reformers chiefly voting against, and the friends of life tenure, in favour of it. After some time spent in debate, the question on agreeing to the amendment as amended, was taken and decided in the affirmative. The question yet to be taken is, "Will the Convention agree to the report of the committee as amended?" Here, I may observe, the amendment which has been sustained through two votes, was sustained by the opponents of limited tenure, and opposed by the reformers. The next vote will probably change the votes and voters.

Saturday was spent in discussing a question of adjournment. The proposition was to adjourn in a few days to meet again in Philadelphia in December. The motion was negatived (in every shape) by a small majority. This morning the same question was brought up again, and after a multitude of propositions, the previous question was called and sustained. The main question was then put and decided in the affirmative, yeas 54—nays 53.—So we shall adjourn on the 23d inst. to meet in Philadelphia on the 28th inst.

The Convention then resolved itself into Committee of the whole, Mr. McSherry in the chair. A motion was made by Mr. Forward to amend the report as amended so as to prevent the re-appointment of the Supreme Judges. This motion was subsequently withdrawn.

HARRISBURG, Nov. 7, 1837.

The debate was continued during the day but no vote was taken. I will venture a prediction that the proposition offered by Mr. Dickey will be adopted now, but its fate on second reading is very doubtful. The tenure may be shortened, but will all events be limited.

HARRISBURG, November 8, 1837.

Dear Sir—The morning session of this day was consumed in debate. In the afternoon the vote was taken on the report as amended by the adoption of Mr. Dickey's proposition; the amendment was agreed to, yeas 60—nays 48. The conservatives voting for and the majority of the reformers against the proposition.

It seems to be conceded on all hands that a limited tenure will ultimately prevail, and hence the friends of a good behaviour tenure adopted it now with a long term rather than risk the alternative of a shorter term. On second reading no doubt the parties will shift their ground, though it seems likely that a long term must prevail. The friends of a shorter term voted against Dickey's amendment, in hopes of being able to succeed in their attempt to procure a shorter term. They have, however, failed for the present, and the terms stand as follows, viz: Supreme Judges, 15 years; Presidents, 10 years; and Associates, for five years.

The following letter may prove interesting to many of our readers. It is from a young man who formerly resided here, and whose present vocation can be inferred from his letter. The description of soil, productions, and locations, are very minute, and the variety of Indian character is very distinctly given in so short a space.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, MISSOURI

Territory, September 1st, 1837.

My Dear Father—I have only within a few days since received your letter dated January 29th. The only way I can account for this long delay is that it must have been lying in the post office at Des Moines, which place we left this month a year ago, in obedience to an order from Washington. We were transferred out of Companies "H & I" to company "B," which in this manner was filled up to its complement of seventy-one men. The weather was very pleasant, the roads good, and as our journey lay through the large state of Missouri, we had plenty of food for ourselves and forage for our horses. Our route was through the principal towns of the state, some of them being well built with large brick taverns, and very excellent public buildings generally. A great deal of corn, hemp and tobacco are raised in this state. The land is of a very superior quality, sometimes prairie and sometimes wood, well watered. The inhabitants in general were very civil to us, and we obtained what few luxuries we wanted such as butter chickens, &c. at a very reasonable rate. The distance we travelled is about three hundred and fifty miles.

This fort is the head quarters of the first